

**ABSTRACT**

A method for operating an exhaust gas turbocharger serving for charging an internal combustion engine, in which a main flow of a gas is supplied to a compressor (14) of the exhaust gas turbocharger via an intake line (26), is compressed in the compressor (14) and is led into an intake duct of the internal combustion engine via a compressor line. The gas quantity transferred to the combustion chambers of the internal combustion engine via the intake duct is regulated by means of a throttle valve (36) arranged between the compressor (14) and the combustion chambers. When a vacuum occurs in the region downstream of the compressor (14) between the compressor (14) and the throttle valve (36), as compared with the pressure in the intake line (26) upstream of the compressor (14), this vacuum is utilized in order to generate a bypass flow (B) which is branched off upstream of the compressor (14) from the main flow led by the compressor (14), flows around the compressor (14) from its side located upstream to its side located downstream and is returned into the main flow again downstream of the compressor (14) and upstream of the throttle valve (36).

(Figure 1)